

## BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

This course, either a morning online or a day face to face, is aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to make them better. There is no personal sharing between couples. For details, venues and dates, please email [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk) or visit <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>

## SAVING MARRIAGES

That's what Retrouvaille is all about, helping couples having major marital difficulties. Their next programme begins with an online weekend event from **Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 February 2024**. The next face-to-face event is on June 14-16. For more details please visit: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

## VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20S & 30S), 16-18 FEBRUARY 2024

### Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life

This weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) in Liverpool. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more, come along and stay for the weekend or just for the day on Saturday. For more information, contact Sr Lynne fcj at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

**THE MEDJUGORJE APOSTOLATE ANNUAL RETREAT** will take place from **Friday 23 to Sunday 25 February 2024** at the Kairos Centre, Roehampton, London. The retreat will be residential but there are places for non-residents. For more information and to book please contact Paul Spencer at [pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com](mailto:pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com) or on 07710567183.

**CAFOD**, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, inspiring our church to help build a better world or by visiting our local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the area? Could you support local volunteers or share your admin or people skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support are provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch with [southwark@cafod.org.uk](mailto:southwark@cafod.org.uk) Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk)

## A DAY WITH MARY PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

For details of the *A Day With Mary* pilgrimage to Fatima in June this year, please see church notice boards or visit <https://www adaywithmary.org/>

# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST CHRISTOPHER

Dallas Road, Cheam SM3 8RS

**Parish Priest: Fr Antony James**

**Presbytery:** 020 8642 2088

**Parish Office:** 020 3649 5994

[cheam@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:cheam@rcaos.org.uk)

Opening hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm

**St Helier Hospital Chaplain:**

Fr Philip Pak 07591 596656



**Parish Website:**

[www.stchristopherscheam.com](http://www.stchristopherscheam.com)

**Deanery Website:**

[www.suttondeanery.weebly.com](http://www.suttondeanery.weebly.com)

**Diocesan Website:**

[www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk)

# NEWSLETTER

21 January 2024

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

USUAL <b>MASS TIMES:</b>	<b>SATURDAY (VIGIL MASS)</b>	<b>6.00 PM</b>
	<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10.00 AM &amp; 12.00 NOON</b>
	<b>MON, TUE, THU &amp; FRI</b>	<b>10.00 AM</b>

SYRO-MALABAR EASTERN RITE LITURGICAL SERVICE:	SUNDAY	2.00 PM—7.00 PM
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<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:</b>	<b>SATURDAY WEEKDAYS</b>	<b>10.30—11.00 AM &amp; 5.00—5.45 PM BEFORE 10.00 AM MASS</b>
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<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:</b>	<b>MON, TUE, THU &amp; FRI</b>	<b>9.00 AM</b>
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### IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Tuesday 23 January, 7.00 pm—CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE**  
Please read about this year's theme inside the newsletter
- **ASH WEDNESDAY, 14 February, 7.00 pm—LENT TALK**  
Talk by Canon Gerard Bradley, followed by Mass at 8.00 pm.

**The Parish Office has a new phone number: 020 3649 5994**

**SAFEGUARDING:** It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. Further safeguarding information can be found on the parish website. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are: Kim O'Brien (07711 757399) & Angela Pitcher (07818 516321).

<b>21 January 2024</b>		<b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)</b>
Sat 20	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sun 21	10.00 am	Pat Weller RIP
	12.00 noon	Mimi Watts RIP
Mon 22	10.00 am	Wellbeing of Fr Luke (Canon Anthony Verhees)
Tue 23	10.00 am	Hilda Gill RIP
	7.00 pm	CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE
Thu 25	10.00 am	<b>The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle, Feast</b> Ellen Vaughan (Birthday)
Fri 26	10.00 am	<b>Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops, Memorial</b> Martin Carrol RIP

<b>28 January 2024</b>		<b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)</b>
Sat 27	6.00 pm	John & Harriet Albion RIP
Sun 28	10.00 am	Kathleen Higgins RIP
	12.00 noon	People of the Parish

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF** Joseph Blanc who died on Thursday, and remember especially in your prayers at this time his wife Juliana, daughter Deborah and all the family.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH** and remember their carers in your prayers. Communion is taken to the sick in the parish on request.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who continues to support the parish through the collections, standing orders, Gift Aid and online donations.

We are most grateful to all those who have switched their weekly offerings from cash to monthly standing orders or bank transfers.

For the parish bank details go to [www.stchristopherscheam.com](http://www.stchristopherscheam.com) and click on Info—Financial Support, and if you are a taxpayer, please consider joining the Gift Aid scheme (information is available from the parish office).

#### **10.00 AM MASS THIS SUNDAY:**

**The choir** will be leading the singing today. Choir rehearsals are held most Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. New singers and musicians very welcome.

**The Children** are invited to go out to the hall for their own Liturgy of the Word today.

**Refreshments** will be served in the hall after Mass today. All are welcome.

#### **OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHISTIAN UNITY**

**All are welcome to a short ecumenical service which will be held here at St Christopher's on Tuesday 23 January at 7.00 pm.** Parishioners are also invited to join Sutton and Cheam Churches Together this **Sunday 21 January at 4.30pm** for a service at the Sutton Christian Centre, 25 Tate Road, Sutton SM1 2SY.

This year the service has been prepared by the Christians of Burkina Faso, in West Africa, among the poorest countries in the world. In 2016 it was invaded by Jihadists from neighbouring countries, and the minority population is being persecuted: 3,000 killed, others kidnapped and 2 million people out of a population of 21 million are internally displaced. The theme of their programme, based on the parable of the Good Samaritan is “love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind: and your neighbour as yourself.”

#### **DAY OF RENEWAL AND HEALING—SATURDAY 27 JANUARY 2024**

The All Nations Catholic Charismatic Group (ANCCG) invite parishioners to a Day of Renewal and Healing at Our Lady of Annunciation, Addiscombe, Croydon from 10am to 4pm. The programme will start with the Eucharistic Celebration, followed by Word of God, Holy Wounds Novena, Rosary, healing prayer, Adoration, Confession and Praise and Worship.

#### **RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY—28 JANUARY 2024**

The Racial and Cultural Inclusion Commission invite you to a Mass to celebrate Racial Justice Sunday with Archbishop John Wilson at 10.00 am at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7HY. Those attending are encouraged to wear cultural dress and bring a flag of their country of origin if they wish. Everyone is kindly requested to be seated at least 15 minutes before the start of Mass at 10.00 am. Light refreshments will be served in Amigo Hall after Mass.

#### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024**

Registration forms for children in Primary School Year 3 (or above) are available from the sacristy and from the parish website <https://www.stchristopherscheam.com/sacraments>

Classes start in March and First Holy Communion will be celebrated on the weekend of 22/23 June 2024.

**Please note that the closing date for registration is 31 January 2024.**